density profile chart that illustrates the computed RA-IRR as a function of corresponding probability for each of the range of possible RA-IRR values. Such information may also include an RA-IRR probability density profile for the median or mean of relevant peer enterprises; a probabilistic quantification of the enterprise risk profile through a radar illustration for each of the risk categories quantified by the method; and a categorized risk profile for the median or mean of relevant peer enterprises.

The present invention has been described with reference to certain preferred and alternative embodiments that are intended to be exemplary only and not limiting to the full scope of the present invention as set forth in the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A computer system for analyzing the risk of a private enterprise, comprising:

(a) at least one of (i) an enterprise characterization module resident on a server system comprising at least one server and configured to receive from an enterprise-user terminal information concerning an enterprise characterization, or (ii) an archival database resident on said server system and configured to receive information from external sources, wherein said server system and said enterprise-user terminal are connected through a computer network;

(b) a knowledge base module resident on said server system and configured to store and access statistical reference correlation information; and

(c) a risk model module resident on said server system and configured to receive information from said at least one of the (i) enterprise characterization module or (ii) archival database and said knowledge base module, and generate an output comprising a private enterprise risk scoring value associated with the private enterprise.

2. The system of claim **1**, comprising an enterprise characterization module and wherein said enterprise characterization module is configured to request certain information concerning the enterprise that is determined by and based originally upon a characterizing categorization of the enterprise.

3. The system of claim **1**, comprising an enterprise characterization module and wherein said enterprise characterization module is configured to request information concerning the enterprise dynamically, whereby a subsequent query is based upon a response to a previous query.

4. The system of claim **1**, comprising an enterprise characterization module wherein said enterprise characterization module is further configured to store incomplete information for fulfillment of information at a later time.

5. The system of claim **1**, comprising an enterprise characterization module wherein said enterprise characterization module is further configured to generate output comprising feedback concerning at least one of the quality and adequacy of data input to said enterprise characterization module.

6. The system of claim **1**, wherein said risk model module is operable to receive information concerning at least one of a set of desired weighting parameters to be used in calculations by said risk model module.

7. The system of claim **1**, further comprising an archival database module resident on said server system and configured to store and access at least one of empirical and longitudinal information comprising at least one of original enterprise-related characteristics and post-funding enterprise-related performance characteristics.

8. The system of claim **1**, further comprising a risk correlation module resident on said server system and configured to identify in an archival database statistical correlations to be stored in said knowledge base module and used by said risk model module.

9. The system of claim **8**, wherein said risk correlation module is configured to compute reference risk correlations between enterprise-related attributes and enterprise risk for characteristically similar cross-sections of an enterprise domain.

10. The system of claim **9**, wherein said reference risk correlations are empirically comprised of at least one of dichotomous enterprise success and failure and a degree of deviation of actual enterprise performance from a projected performance.

11. The system of claim **1**, wherein said risk model module is configured to identify based on the characteristic classification of an enterprise a set of relevant reference risk correlations within said knowledge base module.

12. The system of claim **1**, wherein said risk model module is configured to compute, using relevant reference risk correlations from said knowledge base module, at least one of a mean value of risk and associated probability distribution of risk that is associated with each risk-correlated enterprise-related attribute.

13. The system of claim **12**, wherein said risk model module is configured to aggregate at least one of said mean values of risk and associated probability distributions of risk into a risk value and risk distribution, respectively.

14. The system of claim **12**, wherein said risk model module is configured to aggregate said mean values of risk and associated probability distributions of risk according to a certain weighting factor for each risk-correlated enterprise attribute, the weighting factor of which is a function of the statistical significance of each enterprise attribute related reference risk correlation.

15. The system of claim **1**, wherein said risk model module is further configured to compute an aggregation of systematic and unsystematic risk inherent to the enterprise.

16. The system of claim **1**, wherein said risk model module is further configured to compute at least one of a probability of failure and probability of success for the enterprise.

17. A computer system for analyzing a private enterprise, comprising:

(a) at least one of (i) an enterprise characterization module resident on a server system comprising at least one server and configured to receive from an enterprise-user terminal information concerning an enterprise characterization, or (ii) an archival database resident on said server system and configured to receive information from external sources, wherein said server system and said enterprise-user terminal are connected through a computer network;

(b) an enterprise analyzer module resident on said server system configured to receive at least one of (i) information from said enterprise characterization module, or (ii) information from said archival database, and further configured to generate a multi-factor private enterprise scoring value associated with the private enterprise.

18. The system of claim **17**, further comprising an investor requirements module resident on said server system and configured to receive from an investor-user terminal information concerning investor requirements for use by at least one of said enterprise characterization module, said enterprise analyzer module, or a risk model module, wherein said server system and said investor-user terminal are connected through a computer network.

19. The system of claim **18**, wherein said investor requirements module is configured to receive information concern-